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Amendment
Attorney Docket No. S63.2B-10056-US01

Amendments To The Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A medical device comprising:
a stent, the stent having a reduced state and an expanded state and being comprised of a plurality of interconnected struts, the stent being coated with a polymer matrix, the polymer matrix of at least one strut comprising at least partially coated with a therapeutic substance, at least one strut having at least one bumper,
in the reduced state the at least one bumper constructed and arranged to reduce or being immediately adjacent to the at least one strut comprising the therapeutic substance but not in contact with prevent contact between the therapeutic substance and an adjacent strut of the medical device when the stent is in the reduced state.
2. (Currently Amended) The medical device of claim 1 wherein the at least one strut at least partially coated with a therapeutic substance and the at least one strut having at least one bumper are the same strut.
3. (Original) The medical device of claim 1 wherein the plurality of interconnected struts comprise at least one strut pair, the at least one strut pair having at least one bumper thereon.
4. (Original) The medical device of claim 3 wherein at least one pair of adjacent struts have bumpers facing one another.
5. (Original) The medical device of claim 4 wherein the bumpers facing one another are constructed and arranged to removably engage each other when the stent is in the reduced state.
6. (Original) The medical device of claim 4 wherein the at least one pair of adjacent struts have a plurality of bumpers facing one another.
7. (Original) The medical device of claim 6 wherein the plurality of bumpers facing one another are constructed and arranged to removably engage an opposing strut of the at least one pair of adjacent struts.
8. (Original) The medical device of claim 1 wherein the at least one strut having at least one bumper has a strut length, the at least one bumper having a bumper length, the bumper length being less than about half of the strut length.

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9. (Original) The medical device of claim 1 wherein the at least one strut having at least one bumper has a strut length, the at least one bumper having a bumper length, the bumper length being at least about half of the strut length.
10. (Original) The medical device of claim 1 wherein the at least one bumper has a bumper height, and a bumper length, the bumper height varying along the bumper length.
11. (Original) The medical device of claim 1 wherein the at least one strut having at least one bumper comprises a plurality of surfaces, the at least one bumper protruding from at least one of the plurality of surfaces.
12. (Original) The medical device of claim 11 wherein the plurality of surfaces comprise an inside facing surface, an outside facing surface, and at least one surface facing the plane of the stent.
13. (Original) The medical device of claim 12 wherein the at least one bumper protrudes from the inside facing surface.
14. (Original) The medical device of claim 12 wherein the at least one bumper protrudes from the outside facing surface.
15. (Original) The medical device of claim 12 wherein the at least one bumper protrudes from the at least one surface facing the plane of the stent.
16. (Original) The medical device of claim 11 wherein the at least one bumper protrudes from each of the plurality of surfaces.
17. (Original) The medical device of claim 16 wherein the at least one bumper is disposed about at least a portion of the at least one strut having at least one bumper.
18. (Currently Amended) The medical device of claim 1 wherein the therapeutic substance is selected from at least one member of the group consisting of a drug, genetic material, cells, a non-genetic therapeutic agent, ~~a polymer matrix having a therapeutic component~~, and any combination thereof.
19. (Currently Amended) The medical device of claim 1 wherein the polymer matrix substance is selected from at least one member of the group consisting of SIBS (styrene isobutylene styrene); polycarboxylic acid; cellulosic polymer, such as cellulose acetate and cellulose nitrate; gelatin, polyvinylpyrrolidone; cross-linked polyvinylpyrrolidone; polyanhydride such as maleic

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anhydride polymer; polyamide; polyvinyl alcohol; copolymers of vinyl monomers such as EVA; polyvinyl ether; polyvinyl aromatic; polyethylene oxide; glycosaminoglycan; polysaccharide; polyesters such as polyethylene terephthalate; polyacrylamide; polyether; polyether sulfone; polycarbonate; polyalkylenes including polypropylene, polyethylene and high molecular weight polyethylene; halogenated polyalkylenes such as polytetrafluoroethylene; polyurethane; polyorthoester; protein; polypeptide; silicone; siloxane polymer; polylactic acid; polyglycolic acid; polycaprolactone; polyhydroxybutyrate valerate and blends and copolymers thereof; polyurethane dispersions; fibrin; collagen and derivatives thereof; polysaccharides such as celluloses, starches, dextrans, alginates and derivatives; hyaluronic acid; squalene emulsion; polyacrylic acid and any combinations thereof.

20. (Currently Amended) A method of producing a stent comprising:

providing a stent having a reduced state and an expanded state and being comprised of a plurality of interconnected struts, the stent being coated with a polymer matrix, at least one of the struts having a strut body and at least one bumper, the at least one bumper constructed and arranged to reduce or prevent contact between the strut body and an adjacent strut of stent when the stent is in the reduced state;

placing a mask about at least a portion of the stent, thereby providing at least one exposed portion and at least one masked portion;

placing a therapeutic substance on the at least one exposed portion;

removing the mask.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein the at least one masked portion includes the at least one bumper or a portion of a strut adjacent thereto.